



ORGAN-IZING

POPULAR MUSIC

by
AL HERMANN'S

LEFT-HAND COUNTER-MELODIES PART 3

Continue practicing the exercises and studying the rules presented in the last two issues of *THEATRE ORGAN*. Those who are gifted with a musical "ear" can realize all these details by just hearing someone else playing them. However, those who cannot do that can accomplish the same thing by studying the rules and experimenting at the keyboard.

For those who have learned to add a basic counter-melody and wish to go a little further — whenever the melody moves up or down the scale, using notes that are not members of the accompanying chord: play a counter-melody parallel to the melody at the interval of a 3rd or 6th below (or sometimes above) the melody. By doing this, the melody will never clash with the accompaniment because when the melody is not a chord tone, the counter-melody is also between chord tones, but the interval between them sounds good.

"TM IN THE MOOD FOR LOVE"

The next step would be to add chromatic passing tones. This is very noticeable to your listeners and will make them wonder what you are doing.

"TOYLAND"

After studying and listening to these examples, look for other opportunities to apply the same techniques in many other songs.

It is most important not to give up if you can't do all this after two or three practices. If it were that easy, everybody would be playing like that. It usually requires about a year and a half to be able to apply these ideas to your playing.

Journal of American Organbuilding

Quarterly Publication of the
American Institute of
Organbuilders

This publication is devoted to the dissemination of knowledge regarding the design, construction and maintenance of pipe organs in North America. Although primarily a technical journal for the benefit of organbuilding professionals, it is also a valuable resource for architects and project consultants, church musicians, building committees, seminary and university libraries, and anyone involved with the design or renovation of contemporary worship space.

Far from being the "lost art" that the average person believes it to be organbuilding in the United States and Canada is maturing and thriving in hundreds of small and large shops throughout the continent. At the same time, serious challenges lie ahead for those promoting the pipe organ in an era of limited budgets and competing options. Readers of the *Journal of American Organbuilding* will benefit from the thoughtful exchange of information and ideas intended to advance this time-honored craft.

You are invited to become a subscriber. Persons who are engaged full-time in the organbuilding or organ maintenance professions are also encouraged to request information regarding membership in the American Institute of Organbuilders.

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